

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following abstract at the end of the specification:

ABSTRACT

Expression of laccase in plants at commercial levels of production is provided. The laccase gene is preferably operably linked with promoter sequences preferentially directing expression of laccase to the seed of the plant, and may additionally include sequences directing expression to the plant cell wall. The plant having the laccase gene may additionally contain a substance that is a mediator of laccase delignification. Methods of improving the process of introducing DNA into plants via *Agrobacterium* are also provided.